Pyjama Cricket: THE CHANGING FACE OF CRICKET

By Sunil Sarpal



Cricket is such a beautiful sport that it occupies a permanent place in the heart of its die -hard follower. But, of late, the game has lost its character dramatically with the advent of shorter versions of the game. This version is just like eating fast food. As food in its proper form when consumed fulfills the appetite of a person and fast food, on the other hand, just fills the tummy. The same way, those astute followers of the game who have tasted the five day version do not enjoy one bit of this slam bang type of cricket and boredom envelops them instantly.

The real tussle between bat and ball is what it calls the real test of a cricketer.

The followers have witnessed how West Indies' 4-pronged fast bowling attack was up against Sunil Manohar Gavaskar. His

defiance, air-tight defense and restrained attack was the hallmark of a batting genius. The West Indies attack was relentless, one after the other, hitting the deck hard and targeting Gavaskar's scalp protected head. Gavaskar was always found up to the task. His perseverance, determination and unflinching application, what to play and what not to. It was a sight to capture.

Now, it seems the game has lost its character and truth-fullness.

You bowl and I hit is the mantra in vogue. If I am able to hit it is my luck and if not it is yours.

During those days, till such time if the ball does not start hitting the sweet spot of the willow, the batsman would not unleash his strokes Neither the aeriel route was preferred over ground shots. Nowadays, the trend has changed.

Players are desperate to play IPL because it has become a money spinning wheel. They earn money in crores, just playing one season of IPL consisting of 2 months tournament in a calendar year.

The shorter version first came into force when Kerry Packer introduced night cricket under flood light.

Nowadays money plays a pivotal role in a shorter version of the game and this has resulted in the cricket to a PYJAMA CRICKET.


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